

KISHONO  
Serial No. 10/070,802

Atty Dkt: 1275-49  
Art Unit: 2637

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

**ABSTRACT**

~~It is an object to provide~~ In a Viterbi decoder ~~whereby the error correction characteristic is improved whilst enlargement in system scale is suppressed.~~  
~~For this purpose, a bit range converter(11) is provided for converting the a bit~~  
range of the branch metric values calculated by a branch metric calculator\_(1) to meet the  
number of calculation bits used in an ACS portion\_(2). The bit range converter (11) is  
provided between branch metric calculator\_(1) and ACS portion\_(2) while the. The  
decoder reads the received data and calculates the branch metrics, optimizes the branch  
metrics, ~~and changes~~ the path metric, and stores it into the path memory until the frame is  
completed ~~and w.~~ When one frame has been completed ~~then it outputs the decoded result~~  
is output by backtracing.

Best Available Copy